

REMARKS:

The three antecedent basis deficiencies cited in section 2 of the Action have been remedied. The rejection of claim 3 is remedied by the antecedent basis that flows from claim 1 thereto.

Claims 4, 7-12, and 14-16 have not been substantively rejected and are therefore presumed to be deemed allowable.

Claim 4 has been cancelled, but the subject matter thereof has been rewritten in independent, allowable format as amended claim 1. Therefore claim 1, and all claims that depend either directly or indirectly therefrom are allowable.

Allowable claims 7 and 8 have been rewritten in independent format.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims are now in order for allowance and solicits a Notice to that effect.

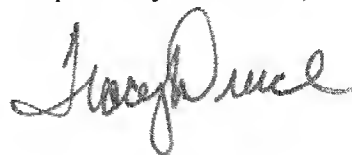
The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, referencing Attorney Docket No.: 7589.0049.NPUS01.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner may directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

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Respectfully submitted,



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